

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A grid comprising drawn polymeric strips in at least two different directions, with the strips being bonded together in at least one zone of overlap, each strip having a high tensile strength in a longitudinal direction of the strip and a low strain to failure in a transverse direction, at least one loaded strip being subjected to a longitudinal tensile force, wherein said the at least one zone of overlap comprises at least two spatially separated bonding points or bonding lines that define an area of separation, between two adjacent bonding points or lines, that extends transverse to the longitudinal tensile force so that any split due to loading occurs in a transverse strip located transverse to the loaded strip in the area of separation and is prevented from exerting force on the loaded strip by the area of separation.
2. (Original) A grid according to claim 1, wherein said at least one zone comprises three or more spatially separated and parallel bonding lines.
3. (Currently Amended) A grid according to claim 1, wherein said at least one zone comprises at least one bonding point or line at or near each angular point of the at least one zone where the strips are bonded ~~of the at least one zone~~.
4. (Previously Presented) A grid according to claim 1, wherein a width of the bonding points or lines is 5 mm or less.
5. (Previously Presented) A grid according to claim 1, wherein a width of the bonding points or lines is 3 mm or less.
6. (Previously Presented) A grid according to claim 1, wherein the bonding points or lines are welded by means of a laser.

7. (Previously Presented) A grid according to claim 1, wherein the strength of a part of each bonding point or line at an edge of the at least one zone of overlap is lower than the strength of a part of each bonding point or line at and near the center of the at least one zone or overlap.
8. (Canceled).
9. (Withdrawn) A process for manufacturing the grid according to claim 1, comprising placing at least two strips one on top of the other, pressing the at least two strips together, and heating with a radiation source emitting electromagnetic radiation, wherein the strip that faces the radiation source is at least partially transparent to the radiation, while at the points where the strips are bonded together, the material absorbs said radiation.
10. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 9, wherein the strip facing the radiation source is made entirely of transparent material.
11. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 9, wherein the strip facing the radiation source comprises at least two different materials.
12. (Withdrawn) A process according to claim 9, wherein the radiation source used is a laser.
13. (Previously Presented) The grid of claim 1, wherein said at least one zone of overlap comprises at least two spatially separated bonding lines.
14. (Previously Presented) The grid of claim 1, wherein said at least one zone of overlap has a surface area of about a product of a width of the strips multiplied by the width of the strips.
15. (Previously Presented) The grid of claim 1, wherein the grid has a strength about equal to the higher tensile strength in the lengthwise direction of the strips.
16. (Currently Amended) A grid comprising drawn polymeric strips in at least two different directions, wherein the strips have a higher tensile strength in a lengthwise

direction of the strips compared to a tensile strength in a width direction of the strips, at least one loaded strip being subjected to a longitudinal tensile force, wherein the strips are bonded together in at least one zone of overlap, ~~wherein said the~~ at least one zone of overlap comprises at least two spatially separated bonding points or bonding lines, ~~and wherein the~~ grid has a strength about equal to the higher tensile strength in the lengthwise direction of the strips, and the spatially separated bonding points or lines define an area of separation, between two adjacent bonding points or lines, that extends transverse to the longitudinal tensile force so that any split due to loading occurs in a transverse strip located transverse to the loaded strip in the area of separation and is prevented from exerting force on the loaded strip by the area of separation.

17. (Previously Presented) The grid of claim 16, wherein said at least one zone of overlap comprises at least two spatially separated bonding lines.

18. (Previously Presented) The grid of claim 16, wherein said at least one zone of overlap has a surface area of about a product of a width of the strips multiplied by the width of the strips.

19. (Previously Presented) The grid according to claim 1, wherein the strips comprise a layer transparent to electromagnetic radiation and a layer that absorbs electromagnetic radiation.

20. (Previously Presented) The grid according to claim 19, wherein the layer that absorbs electromagnetic radiation is pigmented.

21. (Previously Presented) The grid according to claim 1, wherein the strips comprise a layer of a material that absorbs electromagnetic radiation sandwiched between layers that are transparent to electromagnetic radiation.

22. (Previously Presented) The grid according to claim 21, wherein the layer that absorbs electromagnetic radiation is a film or a foil.

23. (Previously Presented) The grid according to claim 21, wherein the layer that absorbs electromagnetic radiation is 5-100  $\mu\text{m}$  thick.